

## **SESSION: (A6) Ocean initialization and processes**

**(A6-02)**

### **Sea Ice and Filling Data Gaps for S2S Prediction**

Chidong Zhang

NOAA PMEL

Sea ice has been identified as one of the major sources of predictability on S2S timescales. Prediction of sea ice itself has been a challenge. How S2S prediction depends on our ability of understanding and predicting sea-ice variability has yet to be determined. Satellite observations of sea-ice environment are rudimentary at best. In situ observations from open water adjacent to sea ice have been unavailable up to recently. New observing technology has demonstrated that observational measurement of the upper ocean, atmosphere and their interface near the edge of sea ice is now possible and promising. Further explorations are needed to optimally use such observations to benefit S2S prediction. This is but one example of issues related to data need for S2S prediction that should be addressed by the S2S Project.